

Appl. No. 10/034,192
Amdt. Dated August 17, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 25, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 81747.0210
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 25, 2006. Claims 2-15, and 17-32 remain in this application. Claims 2 and 17 are the independent Claims. Claims 2, 3, 6, 17, 18, 21, 31 and 32 have been amended. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 4 of the Office Action, Claims 2, 7-15, 17 and 22-30 were indicated to be allowable if re-written in independent form to overcome the objection of being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner and formally recognizes the allowable subject matter of Claims 2, 7-15, 17 and 22-30.

Title

The title has been objected to for being non-descriptive of the invention. In response, Applicant has amended the title of the invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Non-Art-Based Rejections

Claims 31, 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, these claims have been amended, as

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indicated above, to comply with 35 U.S.C. §101. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejection are respectfully requested.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 3-6, and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,546,595 (Norman).

Claims 3-6 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable amended independent Claim 2 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 18-21 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable amended independent Claim 17 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are also believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6809 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

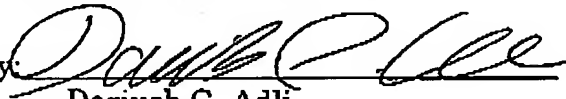
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: August 17, 2006

By:



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